

Random, MacGregor to Form JudComms

By Yi Zhou
STAFF REPORTER

Soon more students will join Ian C. Smith '07, who is currently the chair and only member, in the Dormitory Council's Judicial Committee. Random Hall and MacGregor House are close to completing the process for establishing a JudComm based on new rules and regulations that were voted on and passed by DormCon in May.

Bexley House, which has not participated in DormCon proceedings in the past few years, has declined to create a JudComm, and Simmons Hall is debating whether the newly formed committee should hear cases pertaining only to constitutional issues, said

Veronica Mendoza '96, director of the Office of Student Mediation and Community Standards. According to Smith, other dormitories have expressed only interest in setting up a disciplinary JudComm. He said that he believes these dormitories are waiting to see the outcome of Random and MacGregor's JudComms.

Each dormitory that wishes to establish a JudComm that hears disciplinary cases must construct an individual set of bylaws, allowing each dormitory to tailor the judicial process to their individual culture. These dormitory bylaws will accompany the seven-page document of rules and regulations governing all dormitory JudComms. New JudComm members

will be required to attend a training program developed by Smith and the OSMCS, which will cover primarily procedural information about JudComm code.

Random Hall's bylaws has already been approved by Smith. The dormitory is currently waiting on the passage of these amendments to its house constitution, which requires the consent of more than half its residents. MacGregor House's bylaws, passed by residents immediately after the new JudComm procedures were distributed in May, are pending approval by Smith and OSMCS, according to MacGregor President Adam V. Donovan '07.

Smith anticipates that the review

of MacGregor's bylaws will take approximately two weeks and that the training program will be administered to the two dormitories' JudComm members by the end of November.

The purpose of establishing a dormitory JudComm, which consists of students from that dormitory, is largely to allow self-governance, as long as it is consistent with overall MIT rules and regulations, said Associate Dean Daniel Trujillo in May when the new rules were released. Trujillo played a large role in the re-writing of the JudComm rules and procedures.

"In instances where there are problems, students will have the choice be-

JudComm, Page 15



SHREYES SESHASAI—THE TECH

Daniel Trujillo, associate dean for Community Development and Substance Abuse Programs, explains how self-governance is one of the main motivations in the revival of JudComm at last night's UA Senate meeting. Trujillo, along with other administrators in the Department of Student Life including Dean of Student Life Larry Benedict, answered questions on student life at MIT, covering topics ranging from the first year experience to fostering a stronger greek community.

Next House Residents Evacuated

By Benjamin P. Gleitzman
NEWS EDITOR

Residents of Next House were evacuated for just over two hours Sunday night after members of the Department of housing were not able to reset a smoke detector in a stairwell on the fifth floor. Residents were evacuated to New House around 9:40 p.m., and were not allowed back into the dormitory until a little before midnight, said Dormitory Patrol Supervisor Charlene M. McLaughlin. It is still unclear what caused the initial alarm.

McLaughlin was dispatched to check for a ceiling leak reported at the loading dock of Next House around 9:30 p.m. Around the same time, beeping sounds were heard emanating from the fire alarm control panel near the Next House lounge around 9:30 p.m., said Jonathan S. Burnham '08. This was about 10 minutes before the main alarm was triggered. Facilities arrived to reset the alarm control panel, Burnham said.

"The smoke detector [on the fifth floor] didn't look like it had been tripped," said McLaughlin. "When it would not reset, we called in a fire tech."

The fire technician called to reset the smoke detector did not arrive on the scene until around midnight, delayed by a flat tire, McLaughlin said.

Though the fire detection system

Evacuation, Page 14

Frederick Sanders

MIT NEWS OFFICE

Frederick Sanders ScD '54, professor emeritus of meteorology and mentor and friend to an entire generation of weather researchers, died on Oct. 6 after a long illness. He was 83 and had been a longtime resident of Marblehead.

Sanders was pre-eminent in the field of synoptic meteorology, which seeks to understand weather systems such as fronts and cyclones by careful analysis and interpretation of weather observations. He made important contributions to the analysis, understanding, and prediction of fronts, low pressure systems, hurricanes, squall lines, and flood-producing storms, and he coined the term "bomb" to describe explosively intensifying winter storms.

Sanders helped develop one of the first successful computer models for forecasting hurricane tracks, as well as new techniques for forecasting rain and snow amounts. He pioneered methods for evaluating the skill of both human and computer weather forecasts, stressing the need for quantifying the uncertainty of the forecasts; this work also led to improvements in numerical weather prediction models.

Together with his colleague Richard Reed, he elevated the field of synoptic meteorology to the status of a respected science, to the benefit of the field and to generations of students. He was the recipient of many awards and was a fellow of the American Meteorological Society as well as the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2004, the American Meteorological Society held a scientific colloquium in his honor.

Born in Detroit on May 17, 1923, Sanders spent much of his childhood in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. After attending Amherst College, where he studied mathematics, economics, and music, Sanders enlisted in 1941 in the Army Air Corps, which was recruiting math and physics students to be trained as weather forecasters. He spent 15 months at MIT studying math, physics and meteorology and graduated as a second lieutenant shortly after D-Day in Normandy. He was assigned to Greenland, where he made weather predictions to assist flight crews.

After World War II ended, Sanders worked briefly as an air inspector at Headquarters Eight Weather Group at Grenier Air Force Base in New Hampshire. In 1946, he decided to become a professional weather forecaster rather than join his father's candy manufacturing business. He spent two years as a transatlantic aviation forecaster for the U.S. Weather Bureau at La Guardia Field then returned to MIT, where he

Sanders, Page 13



CATHERINE HUANG—THE TECH

Dechan, dressed as a pumpkin, carefully glues sequins onto her candy bag. On Saturday, Oct. 28, families gathered in the Stata Center for games, food, and Halloween festivities as part of HallowMIT and Fall Festival. Several MIT a cappella groups and the MIT marching band also performed.

In Short

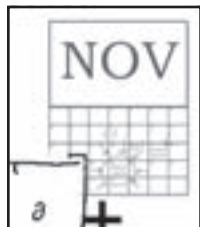
¶ **Flu shots** are currently available via MIT Medical. The vaccination is covered for students, MIT Health Plan members, and MIT community members covered by Medicare. All others will be charged a \$35 fee. For locations and times, see <http://web.mit.edu/medical/a-flunews.html>.

¶ **The fall semester UROP deadline** for supervisor/sponsored, credit, and volunteer research projects is Thursday at 5 p.m. See <http://web.mit.edu/urop/> for more details.

¶ **The fall General Body Meeting** of the Association of Student Activities will be held tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in Room 34-101. A representative from each ASA-recognized student group must be present.

¶ **Applications for bulletin board allocations** are due tomorrow. All ASA-recognized groups are eligible to apply and groups who have a bulletin board must reapply. The allocations take place every two years.

Send news information and tips to news@the-tech.mit.edu.



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NEWS

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WORLD & NATION

Violence Flares as Congo Tallies Election Results

By Jeffrey Gettleman

THE NEW YORK TIMES

KINSHASA, CONGO

Election workers started tacking up results Monday from Congo’s presidential election runoff, as violence continued to flare across the country. UN officials said a drunken army sergeant shot and killed two election workers in Goma, in eastern Congo, inciting riots in which 43 polling stations were destroyed and thousands of ballots were burned. In Kinshasa, the capital, the first official results were posted on schoolhouse doors, showing a tight race between Joseph Kabila, the incumbent president, and Jean-Pierre Bemba, a businessman and militia leader accused of war crimes. The election took place Sunday, and so far, seems to be following the pattern of the first round in July, when Kabila won big in the east and Bemba carried the west, narrowly preventing Kabila from winning an outright majority. “It’s going to be close, but Kabila will pull it out,” said Sadin Banza, the president of the League of Voters, an independent Congolese election monitoring organization with 1,650 observers across the country. Banza said preliminary results telephoned in from across the country indicated that turnout dropped sharply from the first round of voting, when 70 percent of Congo’s voters cast ballots.

Verizon Earnings Up In Third Quarter

By Ken Belson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Verizon Communications said Monday that its earnings grew 2.8 percent in the third quarter, driven largely by its mobile phone company, Verizon Wireless, which overtook Cingular Wireless as the nation’s largest mobile phone carrier ranked by revenue. Verizon earned \$1.92 billion, or 66 cents a share, compared with \$1.87 billion, or 67 cents, in the third quarter last year. Sales reached \$23.3 billion, a 26 percent increase compared with the period in 2005, before the company absorbed the long-distance carrier MCI last January. Despite the growth, Verizon’s shares fell \$1.19, or 3.1 percent, to \$37.65 on Monday as investors focused on a decline in the company’s local phone lines and on the effect of its new fiber optic network on profits. Verizon said the fiber network, which will cost about \$20 billion to build, would reduce 2006 profit by 31 cents to 32 cents a share, instead of the 28 cents to 30 cents a share the company had forecast earlier.

French Company Buys American Power Conversion of Rhode Island

By Heather Timmons

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONDON

Schneider Electric, a French manufacturer of components used in power distribution systems, said Monday that it would buy American Power Conversion, a Rhode Island company that makes similar products, for \$6.1 billion. Schneider Electric, which does most of its business in Europe and North America, agreed to pay \$31 a share for American Power, a 30 percent premium over its closing price on Friday. American Power sells products that protect homes and businesses from power failures and power surges. “We expect this transaction to generate significant value by leveraging the unique complementary strengths of the two companies,” Jean-Pascal Tricoire, chief executive of Schneider Electric, said in a news release. Schneider Electric said it planned to improve American Power’s profitability, particularly in larger products, where it has had to make significant investments to keep up with demand. Schneider Electric has its own unit for large power projects.

Baghdad Blast Kills at Least 33 Shiite Laborers Yesterday

By Sabrina Tavernise and John O'Neill

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

At least 33 Shiite laborers were killed and 59 were wounded in a bomb blast in Baghdad on Monday, as the American death toll in Iraq reached 100 for the month with the announcement by the military that a marine had been killed in al-Anbar province. Four other bombs killed at least 10 people and wounded 26 around the capital Monday, and a geology professor who is a member of a Sunni political group was gunned down on his way to his college. The outbreak of violence comes despite the hopes of American military officials that the killings, which increased during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, might slacken following its end last week. The military said in a statement Monday that the Marine died on Sunday from wounds suffered in combat in al-Anbar, the western province where the Sunni insurgency is based. October has become the deadliest month for American forces in Iraq since January 2005, when 107 troops were killed. Also Monday, Britain announced that it is relocating most of the civilian staff at its consulate in the southern city of Basra to the airport, because of security concerns about the city, news services reported. “Given the threat to the safety of civilian staff, we have decided temporarily to reduce the number of staff at our compound,” Foreign Secretary Margaret Beckett said. Britain has been handing responsibility for security in the Basra region over to Iraqi forces, and the level of the violence there has risen as Shiite groups vie with one another for control. In Baghdad, Monday’s biggest blast came in Sadr City, the rundown neighborhood in the eastern part of Baghdad that has been the scene of some of the worst sectarian attacks by Sunni insurgents. It is also home to Shiite militias that have been linked to waves of attacks launched in reprisal. The explosion there today struck a line of day laborers seeking work in Mudhafar Square. Iraqi officials said the bomb was hidden in a plastic bag placed in a garbage bin next to the

line. One eyewitness, Abu Zeinad, told Agence France-Presse that it was the third time this year that the line had been attacked. A spokesman for Interior Ministry, Brig. Gen. Abdel-Karim Khalaf, said that the blast was probably the work either of Al Qaeda or Sunni extremists known as takfiris, who have conducted outrageous attacks in the hope of provoking retaliation that further undermines the country’s fragile government. “This has the fingerprints of the takfiris and Al Qaeda all over it,” he said, Agence France-Presse reported. In addition to its continuing vulnerability to insurgent attacks, Sadr City has become the focal point of recent tensions between the American military and the Iraqi government. The district is the stronghold of Moqtada al-Sadr, an anti-American cleric who is one of the most important backers of Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki. American officials have repeatedly pressed Maliki to crack down on the Mahdi Army, a militia loyal to Sadr, which they blame for much of the sectarian violence in the capital.

Militants Slain in Morning Raid Of Pakistani Religious School

By Salman Masood

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

The Pakistani military said on Monday that it had destroyed a religious school used for training militants in the Bajur tribal area, which straddles the border with Afghanistan. The attack killed at least 80 people, the military said, describing them as militants. The strike started at about 5 a.m. local time, when helicopter gunships fired missiles into the religious school, known as a madrassa, that was run by a local cleric, Maulvi Liaqut, according to military officials. Ground troops then stormed the compound. Local news reports said Liaqut was killed in the attack. He had once been a member of the defunct militant movement Tehreek Nifaz-e-Shariat Mohammadi, which sent thousands of tribal fighters into Afghanistan to support the Taliban before

being banned in 2002 by President Gen. Pervez Musharraf. Liaqut was accused by the government of harboring local and foreign militants at the school. “We received confirmed intelligence reports that 70 to 80 militants were hiding in a madrassa used as a terrorist-training facility, which was destroyed by an army strike, led by helicopters,” Maj. General Shaukat Sultan, a spokesman for the Pakistani military, told The Associated Press. He also told reporters that security forces had information that the madrassa was being used for military training, and that the militants had been warned to close down the facility but had not done so. Sultan said that no “high value target” was present during the raid, referring to leaders of al-Qaida or the Taliban. Sultan also said that no children or women were present inside the madrassa, and he denied that any American or NATO troops were involved in the raid. “The information that we are receiving so far is that majority of the facility has been destroyed and most of the miscreants present there, they have been killed,” he said. Sultan said that the madrassa was in an isolated location. “There is no house within about a 100-meter radius of this madrassa,” said Sultan. “As per information that we had, there were no women or children present there,” he said. After the attack, helicopters were reported hovering over the area. Telecommunication links were also reported to be suspended, according to local news media. The madrassa was located in the village of Chingai near Khar, one of the semiautonomous tribal areas in northwestern Pakistan that have long been considered safe havens for Taliban and al-Qaida remnants.

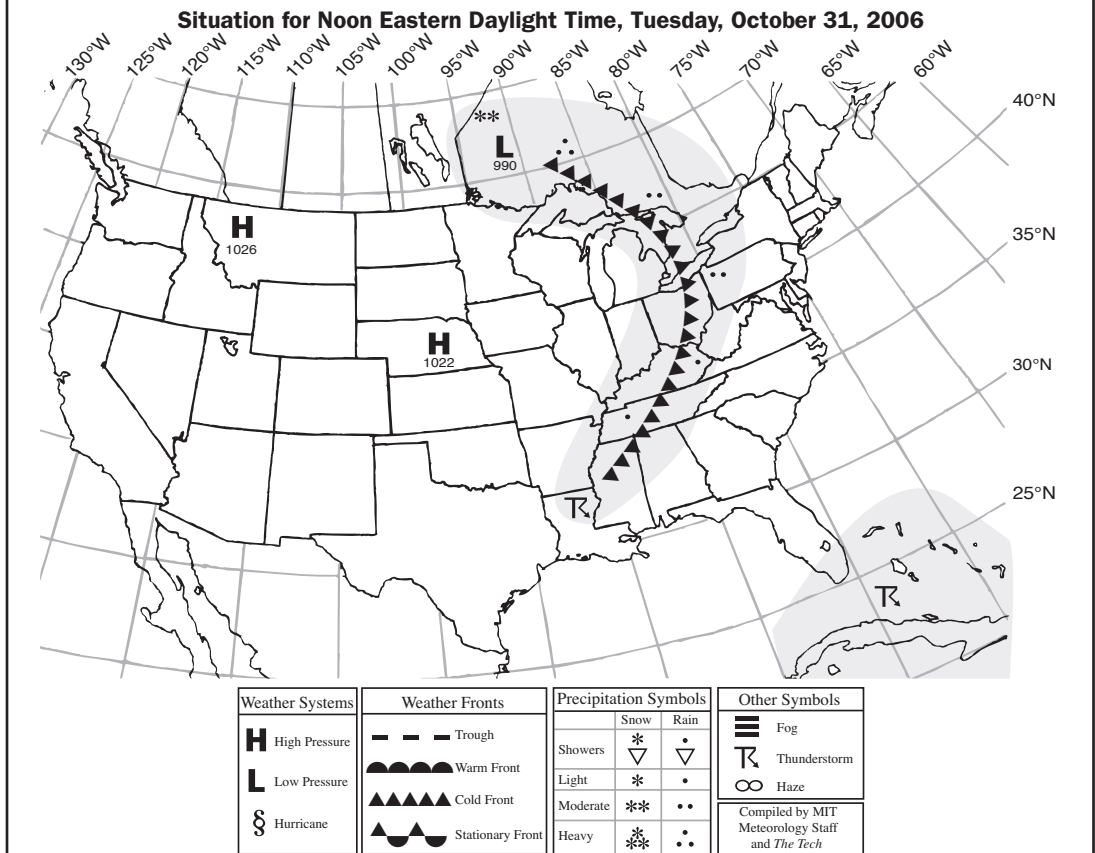
WEATHER

Weak Frontal Assault

By Michael J. Ring

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

It should be a pleasant evening for trick-or-treating around Greater Boston as temperatures remain mild and the showers associated with an approaching cold front hold off until tomorrow morning. In fact, the weather across North America today is mostly tranquil, with the only noteworthy system being a low pressure system over Ontario and the associated cold front draping southward. While some showers will occur along the front in the Ohio Valley, the heavy precipitation from this system will be confined to Canada. Meanwhile the western half of North America will experience dry weather today. This front may bring us a few showers Wednesday morning, but they should not be too heavy. Once the front passes, we will enjoy several days of sunny but noticeably cooler weather, with high temperatures struggling to reach 50°F and low temperatures near freezing in central Boston, and below freezing in the suburbs. **Extended Forecast**
Today: Partly sunny, seasonably warm. High 67°F (19°C).
Tonight: Cloudy, showers likely toward dawn. Low 53°F (12°C).
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, scattered showers in the morning. High 64°F (18°C).
Tomorrow night: Clear. Low 46°F (8°C).
Thursday: Partly sunny and cooler. High 55°F (13°C).
Friday: Sunny and continued cool. High 50°F (10°C).



Israel May Widen Military Role In Gaza Strip, Says PM Olmert

By Greg Myre
THE NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM

Prime Minister Ehud Olmert of Israel said Monday that the Israeli military may expand operations in the Gaza Strip in an attempt to halt Palestinian rocket fire, but that there was no intention to reoccupy the territory.

His comments came on another day of turmoil — Palestinian gunmen kidnapped a Spanish aid worker in southern Gaza and held him for several hours before releasing him, and a Palestinian militant was killed in northern Gaza in disputed circumstances.

In a closed session with a parliamentary committee, Olmert was asked about the military's plans for

Gaza. Israeli forces, which re-entered the territory in late June after an Israeli soldier was seized, have been clashing with Palestinian militants almost daily. Several Israeli political and military officials have hinted recently that a larger operation could be coming.

A spokeswoman for Olmert, Miri Eisin, who was at the parliamentary session, quoted the prime minister as saying, "We aren't going to reoccupy Gaza. But we will continue to fight terror, and there may be a change in the level of forces there at any given time."

Olmert also said the military killed about 300 armed Palestinians in the past four months, according to Eisin. Monitoring groups have said that more than 250 Palestinians were

killed during this time, about half militants and half civilians. Two Israeli soldiers were killed in the fighting.

In Gaza City, Ismail Haniya, the Palestinian Authority prime minister, said, "We call on the international community to intervene immediately to halt the Israeli aggression."

On Monday, Mazen Abu Oudah, 20, a member of Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, was killed by Israeli fire near the northern Gaza town of Beit Hanun, according to Palestinian medical workers. However, the Israeli military said it had not been involved in any shooting in the area.

Also, Palestinians fired two rockets into southern Israel on Monday, Israeli officials said, but they caused no damage or injuries.

Reports Show Lack of Accounting For Weapons Sent to Iraq Security

By James Glanz
THE NEW YORK TIMES

The American military has not properly tracked hundreds of thousands of weapons intended for Iraqi security forces and has failed to provide spare parts, maintenance personnel or even repair manuals for most of the weapons given to the Iraqis, a federal report released on Sunday has concluded.

The report was undertaken at the request of Sen. John W. Warner, R-Va., who is the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee and who recently provided an assessment far darker than the Bush administration's on the situation in Iraq.

Warner sent his request in May

to a federal oversight agency, the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. He also asked the inspector general to examine whether Iraqi security forces are developing a logistics operation capable of sustaining the hundreds of thousands of troops and police officers the American military says it has trained.

The answers came on Sunday from the inspector general's office, which found discrepancies in American military records on where thousands of 9-millimeter pistols and hundreds of assault rifles and other weapons have ended up. The American military did not even take the elementary step of recording the serial numbers of weapons provided

to Iraqis, the inspector general found, making it impossible to track or identify any that may have fallen into the wrong hands.

Exactly where untracked weapons could end up was not examined in the report, although black-market arms dealers thrive on the streets of Baghdad and official Iraqi army and police uniforms can easily be purchased as well, presumably because government shipments are intercepted or otherwise corrupted.

Because the inspector general is charged only with looking at weaponry financed directly by the American taxpayer, the total numbers of lost weapons could end up being still higher.

Fossils Found of a Big Bird That Kermit Wouldn't Like

By John Noble Wilford
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Fossils of the largest known bird, an extinct flightless predator with a skull the size of a horse's and a menacing beak like an eagle's, have been discovered in Argentina, paleontologists reported last week.

The bird, which stood about 10 feet tall and probably weighed 400 pounds, was fleet of foot and able to chase down and devour rodents, reptiles and small mammals 15 million years ago on the plains of Patagonia. Not for nothing are its closely related species, a group known as phorusrhacids, more commonly called the "terror birds."

Such avian giants evolved and prospered in the time of South America's total isolation from other continents. All of these birds were apparently flightless, and most of them ate only plants. Until now, the only known species of carnivorous terror birds averaged 5 to 9 feet tall and had relatively small heads.

Paleontologists said the new fossil discovery might force them to reconsider previous ideas that the terror birds that evolved the biggest bodies were significantly slower runners.

"This is not only the largest bird ever found," said Luis M. Chiappe, curator of vertebrate paleontology at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. "It also tells us the idea we have heard and repeated over the years may not be entirely valid."

New York May Ask Restaurants to List Calories

By Thomas J. Lueck
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

Without a doubt not all diners who order a Burger King Whopper or a Domino's pepperoni pizza or a Taco Bell chalupa really want to know exactly how many calories they are consuming. Whatever the amount, it is probably more than they should be eating.

But the New York City Board of Health, the city's powerful arbiter of public health rules, is considering a plan to make it much harder to avoid the cold, hard numbers by requiring some of New York's 20,000 restaurants, including outlets of the nation's fast-food chains, to list calories on menus and on clearly displayed menu boards.

The idea is to give diners a dose of reality along with their fries.

The proposal was lost amid the other much splashier recommendation the board is considering to prohibit the city's restaurants from serving food containing more than a tiny amount of trans fats, the chemically modified ingredients considered by doctors and nutritionists to increase the risk of heart disease.

But the city's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is also intent on creating the nation's most rigorous system of calorie disclosure in restaurants. It is intended to combat what is widely regarded as an epidemic of obesity, aggravated for the city's 8 million residents by their reliance on restaurant meals and take-out food.



The Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology is coming to MIT!

The Siemens Foundation takes great pleasure in inviting the students, faculty and staff of MIT to the following events:

Reception and Viewing of the Student's Research Projects (refreshments will be served):

DATE: Friday, November 3, 2006
TIME: 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Grier Room , Building 34, 4th Floor, Room 34-401

Student Oral Presentations:

DATE: Saturday, November 4, 2006
TIME: 8:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Brain and Cognitive Sciences Building, 43 Vassar Street, Auditorium, Room 3002, 3rd Floor Atrium Location

We look forward to seeing you!

The Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology is the nation's premiere math and science research competition for high school students. The Siemens Foundation provides nearly \$2 million in college scholarships and awards each year for talented high school students in the United States. By supporting outstanding students today, and recognizing the teachers and schools that inspire their excellence, the Foundation helps nurture tomorrow's scientists and engineers.

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SIEMENS

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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter let-

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CAMPUS LIFE

Imminent Collapse

By Bill Andrews
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Happy Halloween! For many people here@mit.edu, Halloween is a great time, and not just because it's the one day many of us look normal. And no, it's more than just seeing girls in skirts for probably the last time till April (alas). I'm sure I speak for all of us Tech men and women when I say that Halloween rocks because of its rich, historical traditions. I mean, how can history not rock? (I know the geologists are with me on this).

Indeed, this is a holiday roughly 9.6615 times as old as the United States. And that's just the official "Catholics started doing it" date; when Pope Gregory III established Nov. 1 as All Saints day in the eighth century, the Celtic ritual of Samhain had already been going strong for untold centuries. Untold, at least, in the Wikipedia article where I read all this.

Thus for (non-integer values of) millennia, Halloween (coming from the much-too-long "All Hallow's Even") has been a time of spooky scares, of the dead coming into contact with the living, and of mourning the passage of summer (and mini-skirts) and the inevitable coming of winter. A few centuries ago (one, to be specific), the tradition of begging for candy became especially popular on this continent, since kids needed something to take their mind off all the doom and gloom. Things were different back then, as kids weren't really into "goth" or being "dark," just like women back then weren't allowed to "vote." Talk about scary.

But, after much suffering and suffrage, Hal-

Hello, Halloween

loween emerged in the 1950s to become what it is today: a crazily over-commercialized stop between back-to-school sales and Thanksgiving. I'd be angry about a serious, spiritual holiday turning into an excuse to buy stuff, except that by now it's a tradition for me, and you know how we all like traditions. For as long as I can remember, all of October was merely a buildup to Halloween; I'd go shopping for candy with my mom and carve a pumpkin (recently bought, of course) with my dad. That's what the day's all about for me, none of that goofy spiritual stuff.

Nowadays, of course, the kids are taking it too far (as always). I see costumes on racks for such seminal figures as Spongebob Squarepants, or George W. Bush, for kids who just want to be cute or terrifying (respectively). Where's the originality in that? Where's the creativity? Now, if I see a Spongebob W. Bush walking around, that'd be something; knowing kids today, though, I'm not holding my breath.

Worse yet, youngsters nowadays, in an effort to look tough despite owning two cell-phones and an iPod, smash all the pumpkins in sight, turning a once-respectable neighborhood into an orgy of orange entrails. Now, when I was a kid, you'd smash one, maybe two pumpkins, and call it a night; these kids just get carried away, and don't know when to stop. It's no wonder they're all coke-fiends and pregnant, at least according to certain political parties.

Anyway, we're @mit.edu, and thus pretty far removed from society in general, and youth

culture in particular. My first year here (admittedly, when Massachusetts was still a colony) I wasn't expecting to make much of Halloween. That's kid stuff, after all, and here was I, a bright, young-yet-mature college student. By the time Halloween actually rolled around, though, I realized the error of my ways, and threw together an "American tourist" costume, thus enabling me not only to gain easy access to all the parties on campus (and thus the few remaining skirted legs), but also to continue a tradition which, even now, has remained unbroken. Every Halloween, since I was in kindergarten, I've dressed up as something unique and different, and though she's never said it, I suspect that's part of why my fiancée fell in love with me.

But worry not! If you've let your own tradition lapse, or perhaps if you're from another country and unfamiliar with this goofiness we call Halloween, or if maybe you're just lame, there's still hope! You could always run to the Garment District real quick, grab a hat and coat or something, and bam! you're a pimp. Or, if you're really strapped for time, just rifle through your roommate's things and become someone else. If you're one of those uber-clever people who doesn't dress up but still expects to be taken seriously because you're "an undercover agent" or you're "a college kid," that just won't cut it. Do whatever it takes not only to feel good about yourself on this auspicious occasion, but to keep me entertained in class today. And ladies, you know what to do: wear short skirts, and vote!

Poker and Random Bunching

By Yossi Sheffi
PROFESSOR, DIRECTOR OF THE MIT CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

In his Oct. 17 Campus Life column, Tech Editor Bill Andrews was "Td Off" about the service of MBTA Bus #1 (the Harvard — Dudley route).

He couldn't understand why he waits a long time (rain-soaked and all) only to see two #1 buses arriving together, the first one fully loaded and the second virtually empty. This being MIT, it may be time for a good theory or an underlying model of the phenomenon.

There are two possible explanations for this observable fact. The first is known as the "poker table" theory. It surmises that the drivers on Route 1 are a friendly bunch. They like each other's company and prefer the thrills of Texas Hold 'Rm to leaving the station one at a time, driving alone along Massachusetts Avenue, collecting rain-soaked editors on time. The result is a convoy of two and three buses coming together to pick up and deliver hurried students to and from MIT.

The other theory is known as "random bunching" (aka "bus pairing"). It assumes that drivers leave the first station exactly on schedule — in, say, ten-minute intervals. But due to some random event — such as missing a green light or waiting for an old passenger who takes a long time to alight — one bus falls slightly behind schedule.

The chances are, then, that when it arrives a little late at the next station, the number of people waiting for the bus will be larger than average. The bus will therefore spend more time than average picking those passengers up, and fall further behind its schedule, finding an even larger number of passengers at the next station, and falling still further behind.

To add insult to injury, the bus behind it starts finding fewer and fewer people at the stations and gets further and further ahead of its schedule. Pretty soon the two buses start moving in a kind of convoy with the first bus full and the second one empty.

Observations suggest that random bunching is always at play, but the first theory is hard to rule out since poker games of drivers while on shift are difficult to observe without resorting to HP methods.

Supporting evidence for the random bunching theory (aside from its scientific-sounding name) can be found by observing automatic systems that exhibit similar characteristics. For example, elevator systems tend to bunch just like buses — you can wait a long time for an elevator, then two or more will arrive together. This phenomenon is even stronger in Boston than in New York.

The random bunching explanation in the elevator case is similar to the buses. When polite people hold the elevator door for a latecomer, the elevator falls behind and there is a higher chance that it will get stopped at the next floor. Meanwhile, the other elevators in the group speed up and arrive, in many cases, simultaneously. The problem is less severe in New York, since Yankee fans are less inclined than genteel Red Sox fans to hold the door for latecomers.

The moral of the story is that holding the elevator door is actually anti-social behavior. The considerate driver who waits for a late passenger at a bus station is actually harming the system, while the driver of an early bus who waits at a station as you (already on board) urge him to leave is actually doing the right thing from a system point of view. The other lesson is that you've got to know when to hold them and when to fold them.

Hail to the Queen

Sport in the UK

By Matt Zedler

For our first few months in the UK, many of us from MIT found it somewhat difficult to sustain conversation with random English people. Instead of exuding that American warmth and extroverted appeal, the stereotypical English tend to wear a tougher exterior. Typical conversations would be short and dry, leaving one in an awkward silence within a few minutes. Then many of us started to discover a subject which would instantly build a rapport with the English — "sport."

The English are raised in a culture where sports are as important, if not more so, as religion (Many see the founding of the Anglican Church as the result of Henry VIII's womanizing pastime rather than the birth of a legitimate religious body.) From an early age, they can be found kicking the football ("Football" refers to soccer), learning how to bat or bowl in cricket, or tackling each other in a muddy rugby match. Ask any Englishman about his favorite sports team, especially in a pub, and expect to be engaged in conversation for longer than you probably would have desired. Every Saturday, be ready to watch replays of the latest and greatest football moves and goals on "Match of the Week," and don't even dare think of turning the television to some other channel. Imagine the level of passion shown by Red Sox fans multiplied over the entire country rather than just one lonely state.

One of the favorite activities of many students at Cambridge University is sport, and there is more unstructured time to encourage the pursuit of such activities. A strong inter-collegiate competition system helps foster this sporting culture. Think of it as a glorified intramural system, with people actually caring whether one living group beats another and coming out to support their team. There are university-level sports as well, and a few MIT students were skilled enough to play for

the "Light Blues." (Cambridge has light blue as its color, while the rival Oxford has dark blue. Why the English couldn't widen their color selection to make it easier to distinguish the teams still eludes me ...) The range of sports is large, with fencing, polo (water and actual horse), netball, and badminton in addition to many of the more typical ones familiar to Americans.

The MIT bunch quickly dove into this sport-obsessed culture, with some students racking up more sports practices than lectures in the first few weeks. I started with a sport I knew, moving later into the painful, confusing, and exciting world of rugby. While I had hoped to end the year by learning cricket, I instead got caught up in exam stress and World Cup fever.

When I came to MIT, I decided to try rowing. Learning the sadistic pleasure of erging, how to balance a boat with all eight members rowing, and how to get into a Spandex one-piece took up many pleasant hours during my freshman year, but other activities took precedence during my second year. I figured that getting back into rowing would be a good physical and social introduction to Churchill College. The biggest problem I had was in deciding at what level to participate, as rowing for the first college team would mean sacrificing much time and sleep. The rowing teams in Cambridge row early in the morning on the small creek that is the River Cam, going out in the rain, snow, and sleet during the Michaelmas term to build up for the all-important Lent Bumps. Because of the small size of the river, passing other boats is not an easy option, so boats that "bump" other boats are considered to have beaten the boat they bump. It's somewhat confusing to explain, but makes more sense when one is out on the river. To be fair, I never actually made it to bumps, as I found the time commitment of rowing in the first boat

was a little more than expected. Instead of becoming a serious "boatie," I dropped the sport at the end of the Michaelmas term, taking up rugby instead.

Whereas football is described as a gentleman's game played by ruffians, rugby is often called a ruffian's game played by gentlemen. It is somewhat similar to American football, but there are definite differences in the pace and rules. There are fifteen players on each side, with forwards who do most of the tackling and heavy work and backs who do the running and often score the "tries" (touchdowns). While I had played some pick-up American football back home, I was unprepared for the intensity and number of rules involved in rugby. I had to learn to tackle, to support the scrum, to spin the ball when throwing it, to "ruck," to support the "pill" at all costs, and to execute several different plays, all while several large English blokes were doing their best to take me out. Needless to say, the learning curve was steeper than expected, but luckily my worst injuries were black eyes and bruised muscles.

As spring came around, the cricket nets started to come out, and it was common to see batsmen and bowlers in their sweaters on the grounds behind Churchill College. Still a little confused about how one could play sports in a sweater, I instead became swept up in World Cup fever, learning more about football in a few short weeks than in the entire rest of my life. After the USA was knocked out by the Czech Republic, I became an avid England supporter, even going so far as leaving the library during exam term to watch the England-Paraguay game on a large video screen in the middle of the field where football is purported to have been invented. While England may have lost in the semi-finals, my ability to talk with the English grew exponentially after I involved myself in the great tradition of sport.

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Gadget Review

Logitech Noise Cancelling Headphones

By Kailas Narendran
STAFF COLUMNIST

Pros

- Great sound
- Affordable price
- Very comfortable

Cons

- Priced higher than some competitors

The Lowdown

Logitech Noise Cancelling Headphones deliver a fantastic atmosphere, devoid of ambient noise, without leaving your wallet devoid of cash! It's one of the newest offerings from what I believe is really the best electronics accessory company out there. The headphones provide an exceptionally comfortable fit and excellent sound, at a fraction of the price of other noise cancelling systems. You can either use the system with music playing through them, or simply flip on the noise cancelling feature and enjoy the engulfing quiet. They do an amazing job copying the look and feel of the competition, but miss the price point by a factor of two!

Daddy, what does silence sound like?

The most striking experience as I tested

these headphones was using them simply as noise cancellers. It should be known that if you're trying to drown out the sound of your roommate practicing the drums (or crappy bands practicing in the basement of the warehouse you live in), you should really just make an investment in \$1 foam earplugs. The SilentSound TM technology in these headphones doesn't do so well with high impact noise, but does an amazing job with more ambient, flat noise. You may want to trade your drumming roomie for the dull rumble of the student center (or the whir of the air compressor in the fridge that's about to die, like your eyesore of a warehouse living space building in your rapidly developing neighborhood).

The effect starts with the straight up comfort of the fit of the headphones, and the quality of the music that comes out. I've generally found it hard to distinguish audio products from one another, once you get out of the checkout aisle at WalMart, but the combination of the comfort of the fit, and noise cancelling capabilities of this device really separate it from the pack.

Once you put on the headphones and flip the switch, the next few seconds engulf your ears in a strange, soft feeling. I really don't know

how to describe it, but it's like your head suddenly surrounded by something soft and fuzzy. There are still remnants of the audio reality you leave behind around you, but for the most part, it's just really quiet!

At that point you can choose your own adventure, either enjoying the silence, or letting it be infiltrated by anything from the sound of mountain streams, the latest Japanese pop music like that 6.111 lab group next to you, or MP3s of that crappy band from the basement (ah, the greatest irony of all).



LOGITECH

But ... Why?

I've generally been pretty resilient working in an environment with distractions, but using these headphones is really quite addictive! I find the silence really helps focus my razor sharp writing skills, allowing my fingers to deftly ink the pages of *The Illustrious Tech*. I see the neurotic premeds in the study lounge reading the Arts and Campus Life pages, searching for that competitive, humanizing edge. I know that my words and the efforts of Logitech PR have found their mark.

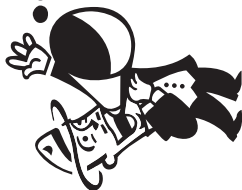
The Bottom Line

If it's not obvious from the last couple para-

graphs, I was blown away by these headphones. They cost \$150 MSRP, and that's pretty much what they go for online. The noise cancelling field is pretty wide and varied, with offerings from \$25 to \$300. The Logitech headphones do perform and provide a very solid, comfortable, value for your parents' hard earned dollar (or one hundred fifty of them, as the case may be). The design carries through the entire product, as it comes with a very nice case and airplane headphone adapter. The headphones do use a single AAA battery, which never ran out even with many hours of use (they are spec'd for 8-10 hours). You can find out more at <http://www.logitech.com>.

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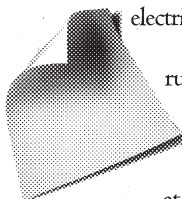
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BE LESS PRODUCTIVE AT THE OFFICE.

The office has always been a place to get ahead. Unfortunately, it's also a place where a lot of natural resources start to fall behind. Take a look around the next time you're at work. See how many lights are left on when people leave. See how much paper is being wasted. How much



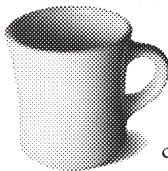
Use both sides of the paper when writing a memo.

electricity is being used to run computers that are left on. Look at how much water is being wasted in the restrooms. And

how much solid waste is being thrown out in the trash cans. We bet it's a lot.

Now, here are some simple ways you can produce less waste at work. When you're at the copier, only make the copies you need. Use both sides of the paper when writing a memo. Turn off your light when you leave. Use a lower watt bulb in your lamps. Drink your coffee or tea out of mugs instead of throwaway cups.

Set up a recycling bin for aluminum cans and one for bottles. And when you're in the bathroom brushing



Drink out of mugs instead of throwaway cups.

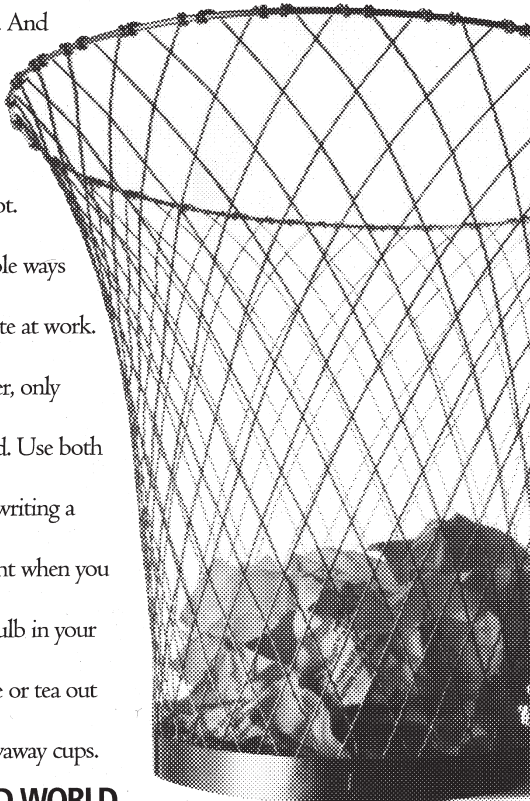
your teeth or washing your face, don't let the faucet run. Remember, if we use fewer resources

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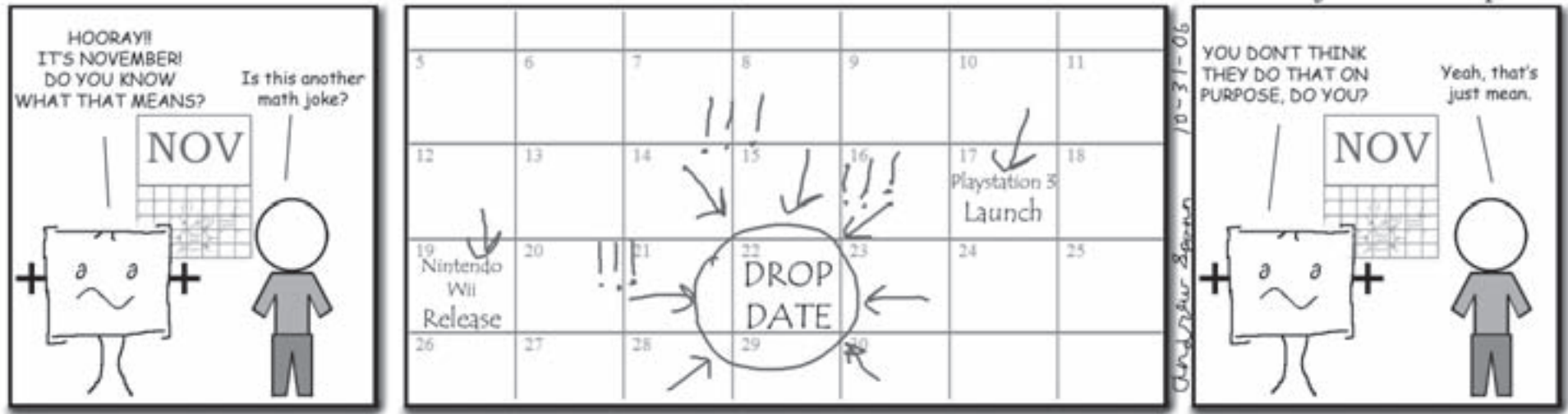
THE ADVENTURES OF MAN

By Scott Burdick
sburdick@mit.edu



PROOF OF FALSE

by Andrew Spann

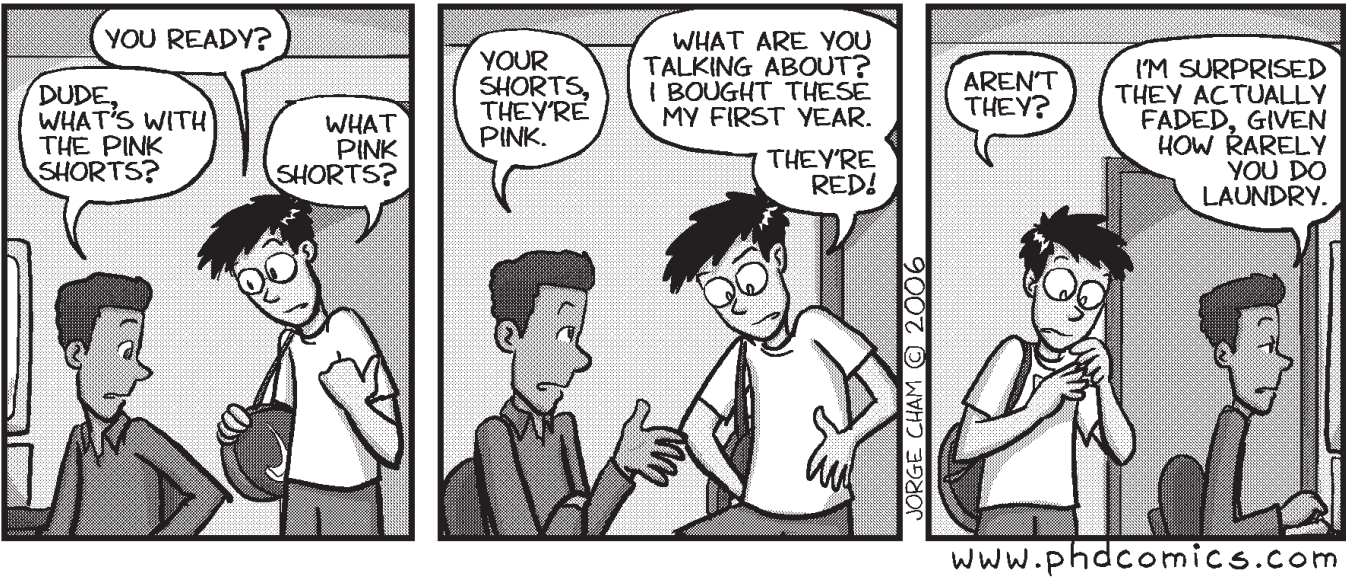
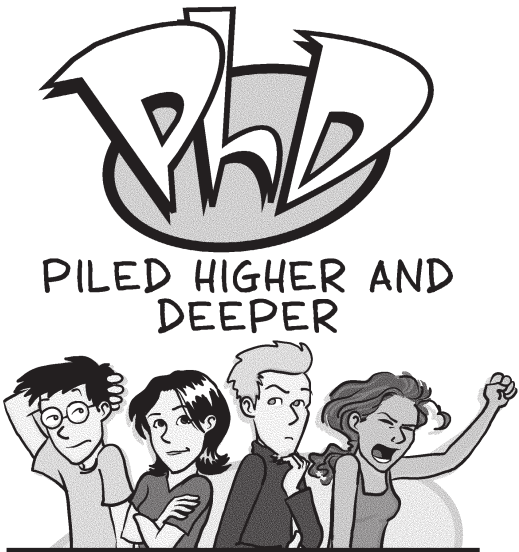


Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

Bonus Crossword

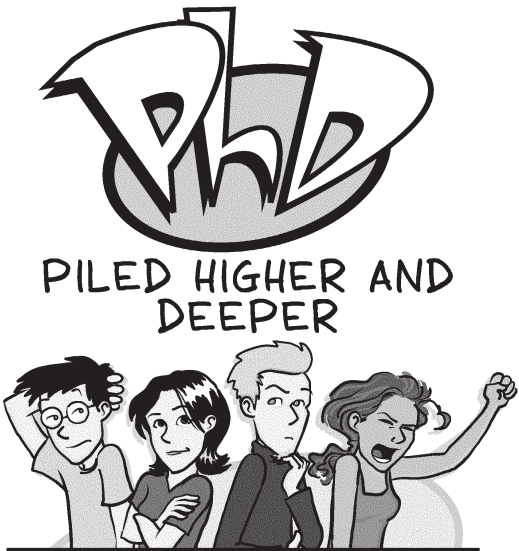
Solution, page 13



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HOW TO LOOK BUSY EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT

PART 3, MAINTAINING THE ILLUSION YOU'RE ALWAYS WORKING: TIMING YOUR EMAILS





RICARDO RAMIREZ—THE TECH



DAVID N. RESHEF—THE TECH

SMASHING PUMPKINS—This year’s annual Pumpkin Drop, sponsored by the first floor of the west parallel of East Campus, was celebrated this past Saturday night. Several pumpkins were thrown off the roof of the 21 story Green Building. The performance was highlighted with a musical accompaniment which showcased Carl Orff’s classic “O Fortuna” for a finale.

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This is the first of a series of weekly interviews with members of different Undergraduate Association committees. These interviews will be conducted by The Tech's news editors and members of the editorial board. UA Vice President Ruth Miller (also a Tech opinion staff writer) will be present during these interviews as well. Questions for the UA committee members should be sent to uaqa@the-tech.mit.edu the same week they are featured. Responses to these questions will be printed alongside the following week's interview.

This week's committee is the Student Committee on Educational Policy. The Tech talked to SCEP Chairs Toyya A. Pujol-Mitchell '07 and Shreyes Seshasai (also The Tech's technology director).

The Tech: What is SCEP's main mission?

SCF: Our mission is to improve the educational experience at MIT by addressing students' needs through policy and eliminating negative stresses in our environment. We're trying to improve educational policy on campus by doing a variety of things, including collecting feedback from undergraduates and acting as a liaison between the students and administrators. We're also responsible for enforcing academic violations that are set by the faculty.

TT: What projects are SCEP involved in?

SCEP: This term, SCEP is focused on two areas. Half of our committee is working with the Student Advisory Committee on the Recommendations of the Task Force, so they're working on getting student feedback. The other half of the committee is working on a new guide to educational policy. We're also finishing up a project from last term which involved creating a brochure on undergraduate advising, which gives tips to students on how to make the most out of the advising system at MIT.

TT: What types of information will go into the guide to educational policy?

SCEP: It will include information about academic regulations, and where to go if students have any problems relating to their academic life.

TT: How does SCEP act as a resource for students?

At the first class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The instructor should reiterate the prerequisites and co-requisites and describe acceptable substitutions. A student who does not have the stated prerequisites should obtain the permission of the instructor.
By the end of the first week of the term, the instructor should provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear and concise description of the required work, including the number and kinds of assignments. • The approximate schedule of tests and due dates for major projects. • Whether or not there will be a final exam. • The grading criteria and procedures to be used. • Written expectations regarding conduct, particularly expectations about the nature and extent of any collaboration or assistance from old materials that is permitted.
By the end of the third week of the term, the instructor should provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The precise schedule of tests and major assignments.
No academic exercises should be scheduled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday – Thursday from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. and Friday from 5 p.m. – Monday at 8 a.m. • After the last scheduled class period of the subject
If there are tests or required academic exercises scheduled outside of class times	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No test or required academic exercise should be scheduled on a Monday night. • The test should be scheduled through the Schedules Office. • The test should begin no earlier than 7:30 p.m. • The test should not exceed two hours in length. • During the calendar week that a test is scheduled, a class should be canceled or no homework should be assigned. • A student who has a scheduled academic or extra-curricular activity that conflicts with the test should be given the test at an alternate time.
After Dec. 8, 2006 *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No test should be given unless scheduled, through the Schedules Office, for the final exam period (this includes unit tests, which can be scheduled during the final exam period). • No assignment should fall due if there is testing during the final exam period. • If there is no testing during the final exam period, at most one assignment should fall due between Friday, Dec. 8 and the end of the last regularly scheduled class. This single assignment may include an oral and a written report if the two derive from the same project. • Optional assignments due between Friday, Dec. 8 and the last scheduled class period should be for self-study and should not be used toward part of the grade.

* This date is updated each term.

SOURCE: [HTTP://WEB.MIT.EDU/FACULTY/TERMREGS/UNDERGRAD-CHECKLIST.HTML](http://web.mit.edu/faculty/termregs/undergrad-checklist.html)

These are regulations that must be followed by all professors of undergraduate classes. The Student Committee on Educational Policy investigates possible violations. A full list of term regulations, including those for graduate classes, can be found at <http://web.mit.edu/faculty/termregs/>.

SCEP: SCEP acts as a way for students to express their opinions to the administration. We act as a liaison on a number of issues, most recently on the advising system and now on the recommendations of the task force. Students can come to us if they have any problems in general with their educational experience here, and we'll work to both convey those opinions to the administration and see what we can do to fix it.

TT: How can students reach you?

SCEP: Students can always e-mail ua-scep@mit.edu with any suggestions or comments. Our meetings are open to the general student body, and we meet Sundays at noon in the UA office. If students need to contact us about a violation, they can fill out the form linked to from <http://web.mit.edu/ua/www/committees/scep/>.

TT: Can you expand more on the advising guide?

SCEP: The guide includes information on how students can be proactive in seeking advice from a variety of sources, and a list of some useful resources for students, including the different undergraduate

support offices.

TT: Why did you decide to put together a guide? Is there a large demand?

SCEP: The advising guide was started last year because of the results we got from a survey we did of the general undergraduate population last fall. The members of SCEP all had the similar perception that students were dissatisfied with the quality of advising at MIT, and one way we thought we could help was informing students of how to better interact with their advisor.

TT: It seems like this guide is just for students. Does SCEP have any tips for advisors?

SCEF: There has already been an effort in place by some members of the faculty to create a similar brochure for advisors. For example, Course VII [Biology] has one that was distributed to all advisors last year.

TT: How was SCEP involved in the proposed changes to the General Institute Requirements in the report from the Task Force on the Undergraduate Educational Commons?

SCEP: SCEP was involved last

year with the Student Advisory Committee in discussions over some of what the task force was discussing. Now our main job is to see what students really think of the proposed changes. To accomplish this, we've already held a town hall meeting and posted an online forum. We're also in the process of writing an online survey that will be available to all undergrads. The goal of all of the feedback is to produce a written report summarizing the thoughts and opinions of the students, and this will impact the decisions of the committee created to implement the recommendations.

TT: You talked about having an online survey. What other ways have you tried to include students?

SCEF: The Student Advisory Committee is open to all undergraduates to join. We're always looking for people to share their opinions and discuss these new recommendations. To join, all you have to do is e-mail edcomm-sac@mit.edu, and which will keep you up-to-date on all of our current meetings and discussions. After the latest town hall, we're up to 20-30 students on the

list.

TT: Then why are there so many students involved? Why not have 10 students on the committee?

SCBP: We want to try to include as many interested people as we can in the discussions. There's no reason to limit the number of ideas and topics being shared. We imagine that once it's time to compose the final report, the committee will shrink since the general opinions we want to convey will already have been constructed.

TT: Do you have any opinions on the task force report?

SCEP: It's hard for us as a committee to have specific opinions on the report for a variety of reasons. As a committee, our goal is to collect feedback and represent what the student body as a whole is thinking. We don't want to just represent the opinions of our specific committee members, so it's best to remain neutral. Our job is also to inform students of the recommendations, and not advocate for them specifically. It's best to let the students decide themselves.

TT: What are the major educational violations?

SCPE: The most common violation is when a professor changes the syllabus after the third week of class. There are a bunch of other important regulations that can be seen online at <http://web.mit.edu/faculty/termregs/>. (See the table on this page.)

TT: What does SCEP do when there is a violation?

SCEP: SCEP will first determine if the violation is valid, and if so, we contact the professor and ask that it is changed. Usually professors are very good about making changes.

TT: Do you have a final message for students? More information about how to get involved?

SCEP: SCEP is always looking for suggestions on projects it can do to better the undergraduate educational experience. If you have an idea, or would like to get involved, send us an e-mail at ua-scep@mit.edu, or come to one of our meetings held on Sundays at noon.

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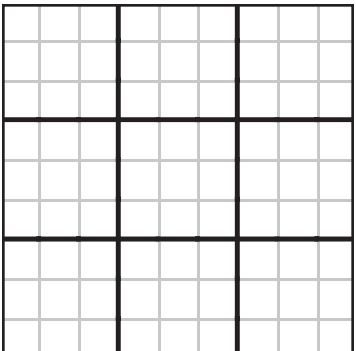
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* MIT Campus Alcohol Advisory Board (CAAB), CCPI Survey 2006.

Check out **web.mit.edu/cdsa** for more information!

Solution to Sudoku

from page 8

A 9x9 empty Sudoku grid. The grid is composed of 81 small squares. It is divided into nine 3x3 subgrids by thicker vertical and horizontal lines. The subgrids are arranged in a 3x3 pattern. The first subgrid is at the top-left, the second at the top-middle, and the third at the top-right. The fourth subgrid is in the middle-left, the fifth in the center, and the sixth in the middle-right. The seventh subgrid is at the bottom-left, the eighth at the bottom-middle, and the ninth at the bottom-right.



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH

Contractors from Suburban Glass & Mirror Co. prepare to set a large pane of glass in place on the fifth floor of the Green Building last Friday, Oct. 27.



ERIC SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Rachelle Olsen, along with her fellow members of the MIT Concert Band, treat listeners in the Student Center to melodious music on Sunday, Oct. 29.



MIT's Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program

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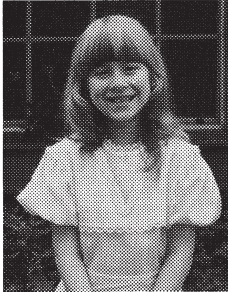
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UMOC Monday Donations

Candidate	Charity	Total as of Monday
Omri Schwarz	Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	\$4.52
Amittai E. Axelrod '02	Big Jimmy Fund	\$4.58
Brandon S. Moore '09	Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation	\$11.11
Josh Pevner '08	Hadassah: The Women's Zionist Organization of America	\$15.61

SOURCE: ALPHA PHI OMEGA

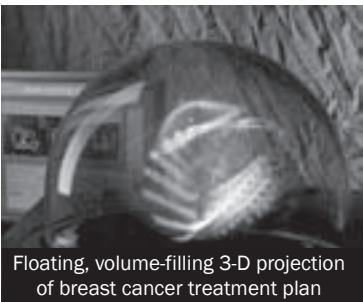
Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity launched its annual fall charity contest yesterday. The UMOC, renamed this year as the Ugliest hu- Man On Campus, competition will run through Friday. Anyone who is affiliated with MIT and is not a professor or APO member is eligible to be a candidate, either by signing up or by being nominated, according to APO President Christina B. Hawkes '07. Nominations are anonymous and nominees have no obligation to run. Candidates must run on behalf of a charity. Wellesley sophomore Christina Lam signed up yesterday, supporting the charity Quincy Asian Resources, Inc. Olga B. Botvinnik '10 also announced yesterday that she will run on behalf of Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation. Both Lam and Botvinnik will have jars at the UMOC Lobby 10 booth starting today.

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As featured in Sep/Oct Technology Review pg 59

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Professor Sanders a Fervent Singer, Sailor

Sanders, from Page 1

earned an ScD degree in 1954. He then joined the faculty of MIT's Department of Meteorology, where he remained until his retirement in 1984.

Sanders preferred to spend most of his professional time preparing lectures and interacting with students. He influenced his field not only through his own research but also through nurturing the talents of his students. Sanders took entire classes for outings on his sailing yacht Stillwater, bringing joy as well as knowledge to the study of weather.

Sanders was a passionate sailor, and participated in many ocean races, including the Newport-Bermuda and

Marblehead-Halifax races. He also loved to cruise the coast of Maine and the Canadian Maritimes with his family and friends. An accomplished tenor, he sang with the MIT Choral Society and more recently with a choral group in Marblehead.

"I don't think we will ever see his equal — not just for his scientific insight, but his outgoing nature, his helpfulness, his sometimes acerbic wit, and without fail remaining the consummate gentleman at all times," said his friend and colleague, Ed Zipser.

Sanders is survived by his wife, Nancy (Brown) Sanders; two sons, John Sanders and Duncan Sanders-Fleming; a daughter, Christopher Sanders; and several grandchildren.

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Solution to Crossword

from page 7

Solution to Bonus Crossword

from page 7




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Fire Technician Late To Arrive Following Alarm at Next House

Evacuation, from Page 1

Many evacuated students went to neighboring New House “after we realized it was going to be a while,” said Burnham. “It was sort of a fun little break.”

“I had an exam [Monday] morning, and I was a little frustrated,” said Andrew M. Bishara '09.

Next House residents were informed not to use elevators, hot pots, burners, microwaves, or ovens, and were also told not to smoke in the building, according to an e-mail from Associate Housemaster John Simmons. The ban was lifted late yesterday evening.

was not fully functional, firefighters dispatched to the scene allowed residents to return to the dormitory after no fire was discovered in the building and members of Night Watch, a housing department group that patrols MIT's dormitories, were assembled as a fire watch. The fire watch consisted of three to four members, according to Associate Director of Housing Dennis Collins.

The fire technician was able to reset the fire system and gave the all clear signal at 2:22 a.m., McLaughlin said.

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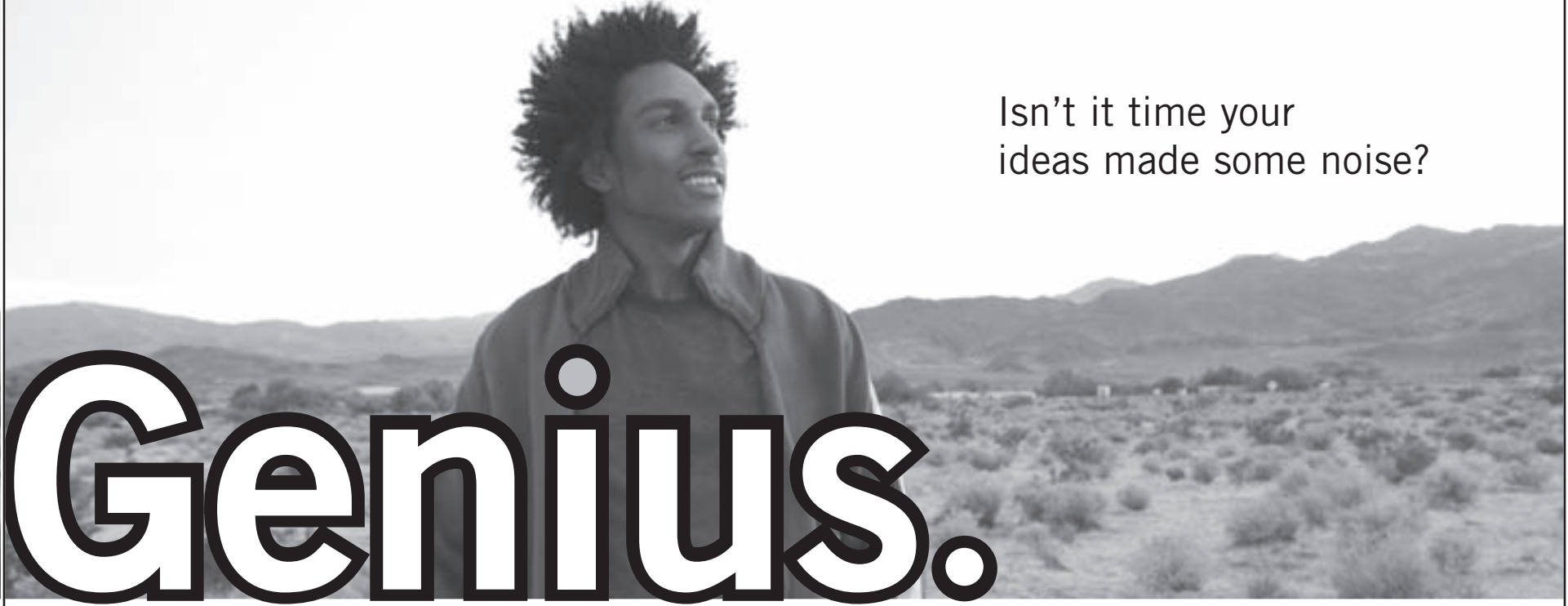
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Student-Run Disciplinary Bodies Re-defined After Recent Hiatus

JudComm, from Page 1

tween appealing to the administration or to JudComm, which is comprised of fellow students who understand community standards,” Smith said.

The JudComm rules and procedures focuses on the disciplinary procedures that JudComms must follow, but dormitory JudComms will also largely serve a mediating role. The new rules and procedures give dormitory JudComms the power to impose disciplinary warnings and informal probations, but determining whether that power will be given to an individual dormitory JudComm will depend on the residents.

Mendoza said that her expectation is that dormitories are “going to be very different in determining how much they limit themselves. It’s the reason why the [DormCon JudComm] bylaws give enough leeway.”

Some dormitories may currently have JudComms, but “to the best of my knowledge, any existing JudComms do not fulfill any judicial purposes or even mediation,” Smith said. He pointed out that the sole function of Burton Conner’s JudComm is to run elections.

Random's bylaws closely follow the JudComm code, except in allowing JudComm members to recommend students to counseling as one

of its decisions. Residents were not sure if “JudComm should be making a judgment on the person instead of the action” leading to the complaint, said Random Hall President Iolanthe K. Chronis '08.

In the works since early 2004, the new rules and procedures released by DormCon in May addresses some of the misconceptions of the powers JudComms have and helps to clarify their jurisdiction. In the past, many revisions of the rules have been made. The previous incarnation included formal probations, notations on transcripts, and loss of housing privileges among the sanctions that JudComms could impose. This is the version of the rules that the Special Committee to Review the Discipline System viewed when they released their report in Oct. 2005, according to the committee's chair, Associate Provost Lorna Gibson.

“Making notes on transcripts is beyond what students should be able to do,” Gibson said in May, and that information was included in the report released by the special committee. According to 2005-06 DormCon Jud-Comm Chair Jeff S. Cohen ’06, that part of the document was probably never implemented.

According to Mendoza, dormitory JudComms must review all cases with her, and dormitory housemasters must

be notified of JudComm decisions.

Because many dormitories have lacked a functioning JudComm for years, "nobody has any institutional memory on how it actually works," Mendoza said. "I can understand that there are some misgivings because nobody understands it in practice." Mendoza held an open forum at East Campus a few weeks ago to answer questions regarding JudComms.

“DormCon JudComm and the Office of Student Mediation and Community Standards both need the experience of putting Random and MacGregor through the process,” Smith said. Mendoza added, “My intent is to use Random as the pilot JudComm because we’re just starting it up again, and there are going to be some bugs that need to be worked out.”

Disciplinary cases under the jurisdiction of JudComm fall into three categories: mediation, administrative review, and full hearing, according to the JudComm rules and procedures. Cases that JudComm may not hear include those of alleged sexual harassment, alleged acts of violence, criminal activity, or academic dishonesty, as well as some cases of alcohol-related violations. These cases would be heard by the Committee on Discipline or another MIT committee, according to Cohen.

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SPORTS

Volleyball Ends Regular Season With 7 Straight Dominant Wins

By Charles Morton
ASSISTANT COACH

Catherine Melnikow '10 sent a blast from the back row deep into the Westfield State back court on match point to clinch the MIT women's volleyball team's 30th victory in its regular season final on Saturday, marking the second time since 1988 the team has reached that record.

The Engineers (30-4, 7-2 NEWMAC) fought off the scrappy Owls (14-15) squad to earn victories in the first two sets by margins of 31-29 and 30-28 behind 11 kills by Alexandra T. May '10.

MIT then registered 20 kills in the final game to earn a comfortable 30-22 win, capping off a 3-0 week that included straight-set victories over NEWMAC foes Mount Holyoke (9-14, 2-7 NEWMAC) and Babson (8-16, 2-7 NEWMAC).

Middle hitter Katherine C. Rowe '10 was the Engineers' most efficient weapon in the match, dropping 12 kills on 17 attempts with just two errors for an 0.588 performance. De-

fensively, setter Amanda J. Morris '08 led the squad with 19 digs, followed by libero Carrie C. Buchanan '08 with 14.

Middle hitter Ellen E. Sojka '08 was Tech's most dangerous server, scoring four aces on just eight attempts through a sequence of short and deep floaters that kept the Owls' receivers off-balance. Morris distributed 41 assists to nine different Engineer hitters while adding three kills of her own.

In earlier Saturday action, the Engineers dispatched the Lyons of Mount Holyoke College in a brisk 30-19, 30-10, 30-15 sweep to clinch the number two seed in the NEWMAC tournament. Outside hitter Frances M. Rogoz '07 led all attackers with an error-free 17-for-32 (0.531) performance, and May was again among Morris's favorite targets, smashing 16 kills of her own. Rowe and Sojka added seven kills apiece to balance Tech's fast-paced transition offense.

May and Buchanan anchored the backline, picking up 15 and 14 digs, respectively. Morris again contributed 41 assists and three kills to the attack.

With 59 kills against Westfield State and 56 against Mount Holyoke, the Engineers extended a dominant offensive stretch over the last two weeks, averaging 17.6 kills per game and hitting at an 0.285 clip during a seven-match win streak. May has paced the offense with 90 kills and 5.42 points per game, while Rogoz and Rowe have smashed 67 kills each and Rowe led all hitters with an 0.380 average and all blockers with 1.28 blocks per game.

Buchanan leads the Engineer defense with 79 digs during the streak, and defensive specialists Rose Zhong '08 and Lindsay E. Hunting '09 have scored 11 and 10 aces, respectively.

Tech looks to take the first step toward a NEWMAC tournament championship and automatic bid to the NCAA tournament tonight with a quarterfinal match against Mount Holyoke in Rockwell Cage at 7 p.m.

MIT, ranked second in the region behind NEWMAC rival Coast Guard, will also host this year's New England Regional bracket of the NCAA Division III tournament beginning Thursday, Nov. 9, also in Rockwell Cage.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2006
Women's Volleyball vs. Mount Holyoke, NEWMAC Quarterfinal
7:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage



DIANE RAK—THE TECH
Representing MIT's A Division, John M. Field '08 and Charles R. Head '07 compete in the Erwin Schell Trophy on Sunday. MIT A Division placed second behind Roger Williams University. MIT placed fifth place overall.



OMARI STEPHENS—THE TECH
Ruben E. Brown '99 (right) lunges to score a touch against Javier J. Ordonez '10 (left) during an epee fencing bout held this past Saturday, Oct. 28 during the MIT fencing alumni meet.



WILLIAM YEE—THE TECH
DeRon M. Brown '10 carries the ball for a short rush while under pressure from Andrew Zambrano of Plymouth State University. The Engineers fell 35-3 to the Panthers last Sunday.

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